

Mayor and Council Newsletter

Borough of Island Heights
One Wanamaker Municipal Complex
Post Office Box 797
Island Heights, New Jersey 08732-0797
(732) 270-6415
www.islandheightsborough.gov



Official Council Meeting Minutes April 9, 2024

MAYOR DOYLE READ THE FOLLOWING:

This Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Island Heights is Hereby Called to Order. Notice of this Meeting was Provided in Accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by Publication in the Asbury Park Press and the Star Ledger on December 22, 2023 and Notice was Also Posted on the Bulletin Board at the Municipal Building, on the Borough Television Channel and the Borough Website.

MAYOR DOYLE LED ALL IN THE SALUTE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

MAYOR DOYLE REQUESTED A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR RECENTLY DECEASED LONG TIME RESIDENT ANN BLAIN

MAYOR DOYLE REQUESTED THE:

ROLL CALL OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AND BOROUGH PROFESSIONALS:

Council Member Baxter	<u>Present</u>	Absent
Council Member Fumo	<u>Present</u>	Absent
Council Member Gabriel	<u>Present</u>	Absent
Council Member Pendleton	<u>Present</u>	Absent
Council Member Thompson	<u>Present</u>	Absent
Council Member Weber	Present	<u>Absent</u>
Mayor Doyle	<u>Present</u>	Absent
Borough Attorney Mr. Zabarsky	<u>Present</u>	Absent

MAYOR DOYLE INTRODUCED:

Resolution 2024-70
Criscione

Approving the Hiring of Nicollette

As a Full Time Police Officer for the Island Heights Police Department with an Effective Date of March 30, 2024

Motion: Ms. Pendleton
Second: Mr. Gabriel

Voting Record:

Mr. Baxter	Mr. Fumo	Mr. Gabriel	Ms. Pendleton	Ms. Thompson	Mr. Weber	Mayor Doyle
<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	Yes/No	<u>Yes/No</u>
Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	<u>Abs.</u>	Abs.

Mayor Doyle introduced new full time Police Officer Nicollette Criscione and Relayed some details of her law enforcement career to date.

Mayor Doyle completed the swearing in of Police Officer Nicollette Criscione And offered his congratulations.

Mayor Doyle thanked all of the family, friends and members of law enforcement Who attended the meeting.

MAYOR DOYLE INTRODUCED:

Resolution 2024-71

Approving a Proclamation
Recognizing April 7-13, 2024 as
National Library Week

Motion: Mr. Fumo
Second: Mr. Baxter

Voting Record:

Mr. Baxter	Mr. Fumo	Mr. Gabriel	Ms. Pendleton	Ms. Thompson	Mr. Weber	Mayor Doyle
<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	Yes/No	<u>Yes/No</u>
Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	<u>Abs.</u>	Abs.

Mayor Doyle introduced Island Heights Librarian Chris Maloney.

Ms. Maloney provided an update on the ongoing activities and programs at the Island Heights Branch. The Branch distributed five hundred sets of glasses for the Eclipse viewing. They have conducted story times and reading events at sites Around the Borough. They want to remind our residents that they have many Media and online resources available, all you need is a Library Card.

MAYOR DOYLE INTRODUCED A PRESENTATION BY THE:

Kiwanis Club of Greater Toms River

Mayor Doyle introduced Jennifer Shufran, President of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Toms River.

Ms. Shufran thanked the Mayor and Council for their support of Kiwanis Initiatives through the years including the River to Bay 5K which will be Coming up in the Borough in May. Ms. Shufran presented a donation check For the Borough to Mayor Doyle in the amount of \$2,000.00 to be used for the Restoration of our baseball diamond at Memorial Field.

Mayor Doyle thanked Ms. Shufran for the generosity and support of the Kiwanis Club.

MAYOR DOYLE INTRODUCED:

ORDINANCE 2024-03 – FINAL READING – PROPOSED ADOPTION

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ISLAND HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING AUTHORITY TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

The Public Hearing on Proposed Ordinance 2024-03 is now open, persons who Wish to comment, please ask to be recognized and state your name for the Record.

Public Comments:

No Comments

Mayor Doyle entertained a:

Motion to Close Public Hearing:

Motion: Mr. Gabriel
Second: Ms. Pendleton

Voice Vote: Yes: Unanimous No:

Mayor Doyle entertained a:

Motion to Waive Reading and Adopt Ordinance 2024-03 as
Introduced:

Motion: Ms. Thompson
Second: Mr. Baxter

Voting Record:

Mr. Baxter	Mr. Fumo	Mr. Gabriel	Ms. Pendleton	Ms. Thompson	Mr. Weber	Mayor Doyle
<u>Yes</u> /No	<u>Yes</u> /No	<u>Yes</u> /No	<u>Yes</u> /No	<u>Yes</u> /No	Yes/No	<u>Yes</u> /No
Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	<u>Abs.</u>	Abs.

ORDINANCE 2024-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ISLAND HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING AUTHORITY TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.14 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to the cost of living adjustment declared by the State of New Jersey (2.5%) unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year’s final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Island Heights in the County of Ocean finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2024 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year’s final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council hereby determines that a 1.0% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$25,311.39 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Island Heights, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2024 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Island Heights shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 1.00%, amounting to \$25,311.39, and that the CY 2024 municipal budget for the Borough of Island Heights be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

MAYOR DOYLE INTRODUCED THE APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

Resolution 2024-72

Approving the Proposed Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council Conducted on March 19, 2024 (By Title)

Motion: Mr. Gabriel

Second: Mr. Fumo

Comments/Discussion: None

Voting Record:

Mr. Baxter	Mr. Fumo	Mr. Gabriel	Ms. Pendleton	Ms. Thompson	Mr. Weber	Mayor Doyle
<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	Yes/No	<u>Yes/No</u>
Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	<u>Abs.</u>	Abs.

Voting Record:

Mr. Baxter	Mr. Fumo	Mr. Gabriel	Ms. Pendleton	Ms. Thompson	Mr. Weber	Mayor Doyle
<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	Yes/No	<u>Yes/No</u>
Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	<u>Abs.</u>	Abs.

MAYOR DOYLE INTRODUCED THE BILL LIST AND PROCUREMENTS:

Resolution 2024-77

Approving Payment of all of the Items on the Bill List Submitted by the Purchasing Agent (By Title)

Motion: Mr. Baxter

Second: Ms. Pendleton

Discussion/Comments: None

Voting Record:

Mr. Baxter	Mr. Fumo	Mr. Gabriel	Ms. Pendleton	Ms. Thompson	Mr. Weber	Mayor Doyle
<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Yes/No</u>	Yes/No	<u>Yes/No</u>
Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	Abs.	<u>Abs.</u>	Abs.

MAYOR DOYLE INTRODUCED THE COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS:

Mr. Fumo – Our Fire Company responded to nine calls in the Borough in the month of March. Their Fire Boat has been launched and is back in service. Summerbrew is scheduled for June 29th and will be back at the Fire Company property.

Our First Aid Squad has responded to fifty two calls for service year to date. The Squad continues to seek volunteers to serve as drivers and EMTs.

Our Recreation Committee is working on a schedule of summer activities that will include our July 4th bike parade.

Mr. Baxter – Our Planning Board will be meeting on Thursday for the second time this year and we now have multiple applications pending. Our managers and elected and appointed officials are in the process of filing our annual financial disclosures, they are due by April 30th.

Mr. Gabriel – Our Police Department Pickup had some electrical issues while on an accident scene. The company that installed the lights will be coming to headquarters to make repairs. Recent turnover in our Police Department is to be expected as Officers move on to full time opportunities or decide that they want to work in a larger department.

Ms. Pendleton – Our water main replacement project on Lake Drive is getting underway and should last four to six weeks.

Our DPW Director is interviewing for part time seasonal employees.

DPW continues to walk our boardwalk daily to check for any loose or warped boards, they are addressed immediately.

A new water system is being installed at the Community Garden and should be in operation by the end of April.

DPW is getting underway with the weeding and mulching of our garden beds and in the next two weeks we will begin planting new shade trees on Borough property.

Ms. Thompson – Our thanks to DPW for their work to update the water system at our Community Garden. Members will also be installing new chicken wire around the fence line to protect the garden from animal intruders.

Our Environmental Committee will be celebrating Earth Day on Saturday, April 20th the Wanamaker Complex. There will be a classroom instructional on composting and giveaways of native plants along with cleanup initiatives, all are welcome.

Fred DeFeo stepped aside as chair of the committee so Tanara Hall will act as chairperson for the remainder of 2024.

Mayor Doyle – Our insurance carrier is offering a training program for elected officials and for each member of the Governing Body who completes the training our insurance premium will be reduced by \$250.00.

Our infrastructure work will continue through the summer and road work will restart in the fall with five Borough roads being paved in September.

MAYOR DOYLE INTRODUCED THE DISCUSSION & PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (PUBLIC COMMENT):

Mary Judge – Commented on the Borough Community Forestry Plan.

MAYOR DOYLE ENTERTAINED A MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM by Unanimous Consent.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Sean Asay
Borough Clerk**